



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Park Authority Wins Three NAGC Communication Awards

The National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC) presented the Fairfax County Park Authority with three communication awards at their annual conference in Chicago last week. The 2007 Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards underscore the association's high standards of professionalism in public service and recognize government agencies or individuals for significant achievement. The awards recognized excellence in videography, event planning and web design.

In the Media Event category, Public Information Officer Judy Pedersen received a first place award for the opening of Clemyjontri Park in McLean last fall. Also contributing were Acting Director Timothy White and Park Foundation Director Robert Brennan. The opening of this fully accessible park drew approximately 1,500 visitors who enjoyed the performance of a children's choir, acknowledged the contributions of many individuals, organizations and agencies, and had an opportunity to experience the full scope of activities available at the park. Park donor Mrs. Adele Lebowitz spoke and also enjoyed a ride on the carousel.

Park Authority Video Producer Mark Garrah received a first place award in the Event Video category for his development of the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards video. The video is the cornerstone of the Elly Doyle Awards program held each fall. The Elly Doyle Award recognizes outstanding volunteers who contribute to the success of Fairfax County parks and park programs. His video provides a telling, evocative look at these volunteers and their contributions.

In the Website Category II for in-house websites an Award of Excellence was received by Jeff Snoddy, Internet Architect II for the Park Authority who serves as webmaster for the popular park website found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks. During 2006, 2.6 million visitors came to the website which serves as a portal for all Park Authority facilities, classes, camps and programs. Other contributors included Web Editor Catherine Tilley.

NAGC is a national not-for-profit professional network of federal, state and local government employees who disseminate information within and outside government. Its members are editors, writers, graphic artists, video professionals, broadcasters, photographers, information specialists and agency spokespersons. The principal purpose of the National Association of Government Communicators is the advancement of communications as an essential professional resource at every level of national, state and local government.

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